

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optometric apparatus for subjectively examining visual functions of an eye of an examinee, the apparatus including:

5 a rotary prism disposed in front of the eye, for adding a prism degree to the eye;

rotation means including a pulse motor and a rotation transmitting mechanism for transmitting rotation of the pulse motor to the rotary prism, the rotation means being adapted for rotating the rotary prism to change the prism degree;

10 command means for generating a command signal to start and stop the rotation of the rotary prism; and

15 control means for controlling the rotation means to drive the pulse motor to rotate at a speed of 5 pulses/sec. or more when the control means receives the rotation start command signal until when receives the rotation stop command signal, and, to change the prism degree at a speed of 0.1 to 1.0 prism/sec.

2. The optometric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the rotation transmitting mechanism transmits the rotation of the pulse motor to the rotary prism so that a change step of the prism degree per one rotation step angle of the pulse motor is 0.05 prism or less, more preferably, 0.01 prism or less.

25 3. The optometric apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the rotation transmitting mechanism includes a gear device for transmitting the rotation of the pulse motor to the rotary prism while reducing the speed of the rotation.

4. The optometric apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the control means drives the pulse motor to rotate at a speed of 10 to 100 pulses/sec.

5 5. The optometric apparatus according to claim 1 further including setting means for setting the change speed of the prism degree in a range of 0.1 to 1.0 prism/sec.

10 6. The optometric apparatus according to claim 1 further including designation means for designating the prism degree to be added to the eye, wherein the control means, when receives the designation signal from the designation means, controls the rotation means so that the prism degree changes at a speed faster than 0.1 to 1.0 prism/sec. up to the designated prism degree.

15 7. The optometric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the rotary prism is a pair of prisms that have the same power and that are rotated at equal angles in opposite directions.

20 8. An optometric apparatus for subjectively examining visual functions of an eye of an examinee, the apparatus including:

a rotary prism disposed in front of the eye, for adding a prism degree to the eye;

25 a rotation unit which includes a pulse motor and a rotation transmitting mechanism for transmitting rotation of the pulse motor to the rotary prism, the rotation unit being adapted for rotating the rotary prism to change the prism degree;

a command device which generates a command signal to start and

stop the rotation of the rotary prism; and

a control unit which controls the rotation unit to drive the pulse motor to rotate at a speed of 5 pulses/sec. or more when the control unit receives the rotation start command signal until when receives the rotation stop command signal, and, to change the prism degree at a speed of 0.1 to 5 1.0 prism/sec.

9. The optometric apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the rotation transmitting mechanism transmits the rotation of the pulse motor to the rotary prism so that a change step of the prism degree per one rotation step angle of the pulse motor is 0.05 prism or less, more preferably, 10 0.01 prism or less.